64TH CONGRESS, 1st Session. } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. { REPORT No. 94.

POST OFFICE APPROPRIATION BILL.

JANUARY 31, 1916.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. MOON, from the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 10484.]

The Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, in presenting this bill making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917, and for other purposes, submits the following:

The appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916, was $313,364,667. The estimates of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917, amount to $316,364,879. The committee recommends appropriations to the amount of $320,509,879. The increase in the estimates of the department over the appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916, is due to the normal growth of the service. The increase of recommendations by the committee over the estimates of the department is due largely to the fact that the committee was not content with the appropriation of $48,500,000 for the maintenance and extension of the Rural Delivery Service and increased the amount to $53,000,000, the same as carried in the appropriation for 1916. There were some other increases and decreases, which brought about the result as above stated.

The report of the Postmaster General sets forth fully the use of the money heretofore appropriated and the revenues to be expected and expended in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917.

The following tables show the appropriations for 1916, the estimates of the department for the year 1917, and the recommendations of the committee for 1917, in the office of the Postmaster General, and the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Assistant Postmasters General, and in them may be found the separate items of appropriations under the jurisdiction of each of these offices, and the total of all appropriations, estimates, and recommendations.

Post Office appropriation bill, 1917.

	Appropriated, 1916.	Estimate for 1917.	Committee recommends for 1917.
POSTMASTER GENERAL.			
Rent building, supplies, and mail-bag repair shop	$32,000	$32,000	$32,000
Gas, electric light, and power, mail-bag repair shop	4,500	4,000	4,000
Post-office inspectors:			
Salaries	779,500	783,700	783,700
Per diem	261,400	262,860	262,860
Post-office inspectors' clerks:			
Division headquarters	134,000	134,000	134,000
Traveling expenses	43,750	43,850	43,850
Livery hire	45,000	45,000	45,000
Miscellaneous expenses	7,500	7,500	7,500
Payment of rewards	25,000	25,000	25,000
Acting employees for those injured, etc	134,500	234,000	234,000
Travel expenses, Postmaster General	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total	1,468,150	1,572,910	1,572,910
FIRST ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL.			
Compensation to postmasters	30,750,000	31,000,000	31,000,000
Compensation to assistant postmasters	3,200,000		3,200,000
Clerks and employees at first and second class post offices	46,002,100	50,700,000	[1] 47,900,000
Compensation to printers, mechanics, etc	44,600	59,000	62,000
Compensation to watchmen, messengers, etc	1,404,000	1,350,000	1,400,000
Clerks in charge contract stations	1,100,000	1,160,000	1,160,000
Substitutes for clerks on vacation	450,000		
Temporary and auxiliary clerk hire	2,000,000	1,800,000	1,800,000
Separating mails	675,000	710,000	710,000
Unusual conditions	90,000	90,000	90,000
Allowance to third-class offices	1,700,000	1,775,000	1,775,000
Rent, light, and fuel, first, second, and third class post offices	5,200,000	5,500,000	5,500,000
Miscellaneous items, first and second class post offices	350,000	350,000	350,000
Operation, maintenance, and extension Washington-Alaska military cable and telegraph system		300,000	
Letter carriers	37,700,000	38,800,000	39,100,000
Substitutes for letter carriers	2,975,000	3,675,000	3,675,000
Letter carriers, new offices	100,000	75,000	75,000
Horse-hire allowance (screen-wagon service)	4,900,000	5,565,000	5,565,000
Mail-messenger service	2,000,000	2,193,000	2,193,000
Car-fare and bicycle allowance	525,000	625,000	625,000
Pneumatic-tube service	966,800	976,000	976,000
Street-car collection service	10,000	10,000	10,000
Marine postal service, Detroit, Mich	6,500	7,250	7,250
Car fare, special-delivery service	13,000	13,000	13,000
Fees, special-delivery messengers	2,225,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Travel expenses	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total	144,468,000	148,734,250	149,187,250
SECOND ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL.			
Inland transportation:			
Star routes, Alaska	304,000	306,000	306,000
Steamboats	1,049,400	1,060,000	1,060,000
Mail-messenger service (transferred to First Assistant)			
Pneumatic-tube service (transferred to First Assistant)			
Screen-wagon service (transferred to First Assistant)			
Inland transportation, railroads	56,188,000	59,300,000	59,185,000
Freight or expressage, postal supplies	510,000	645,000	645,000
Railway post-office car service	5,412,000	4,412,000	4,397,000
Railway Mail Service	28,521,440	29,725,050	29,725,050
Traveling expenses, railway mail clerks	1,534,500	1,488,336	1,488,336
Temporary clerk hire, railway mail clerks	67,500	60,000	60,000
Substitutes, railway mail clerks	143,900	193,900	193,900
Actual necessary expenses, division superintendent	55,200	55,000	55,000
Rent, light, and fuel, etc., Railway Mail Service	770,000	606,723	606,723
Per diem allowance, assistant superintendents	3,607	2,660	2,660
Electric and cable car service	784,000	660,000	660,000
For experimental aerial mail service		50,000	
Transportation, foreign mails	4,000,000	3,930,000	3,430,000
Assistant superintendent, foreign mails	2,500	2,500	2,500
Balances due foreign countries	681,800	681,700	681,700
Travel expenses	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total	100,028,847	103,179,869	102,499,869

[1] Revised estimate.

Post Office appropriation bill, 1917—Continued.

	Appropriated, 1916.	Estimate for 1917.	Committee recommends for 1917.
THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL.			
Manufacture adhesive postage stamps, etc	$810,000	$806,000	$806,000
Manufacture stamped envelopes, etc	1,650,000	1,516,000	1,516,000
Agent and assistants to distribute stamped envelopes	20,500	15,500	15,500
Manufacture postal cards	385,000	360,000	360,000
Ship, steamboat, and way letters	250	150	150
Limited indemnity:			
Domestic	110,000	238,000	200,000
International	15,000	10,000	10,000
Travel expenses, Third Assistant Postmaster General	1,000	1,000	1,000
Traveling expenses, Postal Savings System	500	500	500
Total	2,999,250	2,947,150	2,909,150
FOURTH ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL.			
Stationery, money-order offices, etc	312,500	260,000	260,000
Official and registry envelopes	85,520	72,700	72,700
Blank books, etc., Postal Savings System	100,000	100,000	75,000
Supplies, City Delivery Service	250,000	225,000	225,000
Postmarking, rating, and other stamps	40,000	30,000	30,000
Letter balances, etc	100,000	50,000	50,000
Wrapping paper	15,000	15,000	15,000
Twine, and tying devices	200,000	225,000	[1] 250,000
Facing slips, etc., intaglio seals, etc	87,000	120,000	120,000
Purchase, exchange, and repair of typewriting machines, etc	120,000	135,000	135,000
Supplies, Rural Delivery Service	45,000	12,000	12,000
Expenses, shipment of supplies	145,000	140,000	125,000
Miscellaneous expenses, Division of Supplies	30,000	25,000	25,000
Miscellaneous items	125,000	70,000	70,000
Miscellaneous equipment, etc	.....	40,000	40,000
Canceling machines	300,000	300,000	250,000
Mechanical and labor-saving devices	50,000	100,000	75,000
Mail bags, etc	378,000	480,000	480,000
Compensation to labor, mail bag shop, etc	148,400	155,000	155,000
Inland transportation, star routes	8,675,000	8,675,000	8,675,000
Pay of rural letter carriers	53,000,000	48,500,000	53,000,000
Experimental village delivery service	200,000	200,000	200,000
Travel and miscellaneous expenses	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total	64,407,420	59,930,700	64,340,700

RÉSUMÉ.

Office of the Postmaster General	$1,468,150	$1,572,910	$1,572,910
Office of the First Assistant Postmaster General	144,468,000	148,734,250	149,187,250
Office of the Second Assistant Postmaster General	100,028,847	103,179,869	102,499,869
Office of the Third Assistant Postmaster General	2,992,250	2,947,150	2,909,150
Office of the Fourth Assistant Postmaster General	64,407,420	59,930,700	64,340,700
Total	313,364,667	316,364,879	320,509,879

[1] Revised estimates.

Estimates for 1917 over appropriations for 1916	$3,000,212
Recommendations of committee over estimates	4,175,000

It is not regarded as necessary by the committee to enter into any discussion in this report of the new legislation presented in the bill as it must be discussed in the House if a rule is made making it in order. Then, too, the hearings heretofore held in the consideration of this bill set forth fully and concisely the reasons for the legislation, and the reports of the department on the same are also printed in the hearings, which are available to each Member of the House. This legislation is familiar to a large majority of the Members of the House, having heretofore been enacted in its main features by the House, but failed to become a law by reason of the fact that the Senate did not reach it in time in the last session for its consideration.

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